

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03529 172201Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-05 RSC-01 DRC-01 /018 W

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R 172120Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9027

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3529

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, CI

SUBJECT: TRADE OPPORTUNITIES: PREFAB HOUSING; CONSULTING AND
SMALL INDUSTRY

REF: (A) STATE 127818; (B) SANTIAGO 3120; (C) SANTIAGO 3498

1. ACCORDING TO GARCIA, HE NOT RPT NOT AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS FOR PREFAB HOUSING OR OTHER PRODUCTS. AS EXPLAINED REFTEL B, HE MADE TRIP AT REQUEST OF UNIDENTIFIED GOC OFFICIALS, APPARENTLY MEMBERS OF JUNTA'S ECONOMIC ADVISORY GROUP. PRIOR TO TRIP, GARCIA SAID ODEPLAN OFFICIALS DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT. GARCIA ADDED HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER JUNTA OR MINISTERS HAD BEEN ADVISED.

2. EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING OF STATUS OF PREFAB PLAN IS AS REPORTED REFTEL B. INTERESTING TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IN JOINT STATEMENT JUNE 13 (REFTEL C), MINFIN AND MINECON SPOKE OF A STUDY NOW IN FINAL STAGES TO IMPORT SCARCE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND PREFAB HOUSING.

3. GARCIA EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH HIS APPOINTMENTS. HE SAID HIS MOST IMMEDIATE TASK WILL BE TO PASS ON TO PLAN'S SUPPORTERS US FIRMS' ADVISE THAT NO COUNTRY IN WORLD WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPLY 20,000 PREFABS WITHIN SHORT PERIOD. GARCIA HOPES THAT MORE MODEST PLAN WILL SOON BE APPROVED.
THOMPSON

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